

From: [Jeff Frithsen](#)
To: [Krupnik, Igor](#)
Cc: [Alan Boraas](#); catherineknott@gmail.com
Subject: Re: Smithsonian research on northern indigenous people and cultures
Date: 06/05/2012 02:12 PM

Igor:

Thanks for your email.

I thought our recent work might be of interest to your ongoing work. The USEPA recently released a draft report entitled, "An Assessment of Potential Mining Impacts on Salmon Ecosystems of Bristol Bay, Alaska". This draft report is currently out for public comment and review by an external peer review panel that will meet later this summer in Anchorage. The report may be downloaded by following this link.

<http://cfpub.epa.gov/ncea/bristolbay/recordisplay.cfm?deid=241743>

The Bristol Bay watershed in southwestern Alaska supports the largest sockeye salmon fishery in the world, is home to 25 Federally Recognized Tribal Governments, and contains large mineral resources. The potential for large-scale mining activities in the watershed has raised concerns about the impact of mining on the sustainability of Bristol Bay's world-class fisheries, and the future of Alaska Native tribes in the watershed who have maintained a salmon-based culture and subsistence-based lifestyle for at least 4,000 years. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) launched this assessment to determine the significance of Bristol Bay's ecological resources and evaluate the potential impacts of large-scale mining on these resources.

As part of this work, the AGENCY supported a study focused on collecting traditional ecological knowledge from the Alaskan Native Villages of the Nushagak and Kvichak watersheds. That study was included as Appendix D of the Bristol Bay Assessment. It represents a series of interviews conducted by Alan Boraas and Catherine Knott, with many of the interviews conducted in the Yup'ik dialogue.

After hearing Dr. Pell during last Friday's IARPC meeting, it occurred to me that you both might be interested in the Bristol Bay Assessment, but specifically the study conducted by Boraas and Knott. The title of their report is **Traditional Ecological Knowledge and Cultural Characterization of the Nushagak and Kvichak Watersheds, Alaska**.

I invite you to download their study and welcome any comments you might have. I have also copied Boraas and Knott with this email in case you want to contact them directly.

Jeff

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▼ "Krupnik, Igor" ---06/05/2012 04:25:23 PM---Dear Dr. Frithsen, Dr. Eva Pell, the Smithsonian Under Secretary for Science, passed your e-mail to

From: "Krupnik, Igor" <KRUPNIKI@si.edu>
To: Jeff Frithsen/DC/USEPA/US@EPA
Date: 06/05/2012 04:25 PM
Subject: Re: Smithsonian research on northern indigenous people and cultures

Dear Dr. Frithsen,

Dr. Eva Pell, the Smithsonian Under Secretary for Science, passed your e-mail to me and said that you expressed interest in knowing more about our work at the Arctic Studies Center, following her presentation at the IARPC Seniors meeting last Friday. We would be delighted to share the information on our work in the North if you are interested. Please feel free to contact me with any queries on my personal research. You may also check more about our activities at our website at www.mnh.si.edu/arctic and specifically from our annual newsletters. The latest issue of 2012 is available at http://www.mnh.si.edu/arctic/html/pdf/ASC_NL19_FINAL_small.pdf and we have copies of many of our publications available to the interested parties.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if I may be of further help.

Sincerely,

Igor

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